

State Water Board Update

1) Phase 1: San Joaquin River Flow and South Delta Water Quality Objectives

The State Water Board is in the process of reviewing the San Joaquin River flow objectives for the protection of fish and wildlife beneficial uses, water quality objectives for the protection of southern delta agricultural beneficial uses, and the program of implementation for those objectives contained in the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (2006 Bay-Delta Plan).

In order to inform the Bay-Delta Plan review, the State Water Board is preparing a Substitute Environmental Document (SED) and is anticipating issuing a draft by about mid-July, 2012. Following a period for receipt of written comments, there will be a public hearing on the adequacy of the draft. A final SED will be released after consideration of the comments and a Board hearing to consider adoption of the final SED and the revised Bay-Delta Plan is anticipated in February of 2013.

Additional information regarding this review can be found at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/bay\\_delta/bay\\_delta\\_plan/water\\_quality\\_control\\_planning/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/bay_delta_plan/water_quality_control_planning/)

Questions concerning this effort can be directed to Mark Gowdy at 916-341-5432 or [mgowdy@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mgowdy@waterboards.ca.gov).

2) Phase 2: Comprehensive Review

The State Water Board held a CEQA Scoping Meeting on May 16, 2012 to hear public comments on potential project alternatives for the comprehensive review, including potential environmental impacts, and potential mitigation measures.

Written comment letters are posted at:

[http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/bay\\_delta/bay\\_delta\\_plan/comments\\_supplemental\\_nop.shtml](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/bay_delta_plan/comments_supplemental_nop.shtml)

The State Water Board has tentatively scheduled workshops for August 22; September 5 & 6; October 1 & 2. The workshops will be organized to facilitate expert scientific input on the following topics: Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone, Salmonids, and Pelagic Organisms, and Analytical Tools for Evaluating the Water Supply, Hydrodynamic, and Hydropower Effects of the Bay-Delta Plan. The information generated through the workshops will augment information generated through earlier reviews and will inform the State Water Board members and staff on what, if any, changes should be made to the 2006 Bay-Delta Plan. Further information on the proposed workshops will be provided in the coming months.

Additional information is available at the Division of Water Rights' website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/bay\\_delta/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/)

Questions concerning this effort can be directed to Karen Niiya at 916-341-5365 or [kyniiya@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kyniiya@waterboards.ca.gov) or Diane Riddle at 916-341-5297 or [driddle@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:driddle@waterboards.ca.gov).

3) Bay-Delta Compliance

On April 20, 2012, the Delta Watermaster at the State Water Board sent a letter to DWR/USBR regarding exceedance of the 30-day average electrical conductivity (EC) objective at the Old River near Tracy Road Bridge station. This station has been continuously out of compliance with this objective starting on March 8, 2012. The State Water Board has received subsequent correspondence from DWR/USBR regarding this issue.

4) Water Transfers

There are no pending transfer orders. No transfer orders were issued in May 2012.

For further information on Water Transfers, contact Katherine Mrowka at 916-341-5363 or [kmrowka@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kmrowka@waterboards.ca.gov).